

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data cartridge, comprising:
 - a housing having a surface resistivity in a range of approximately 10^6 ohms/square to approximately 10^{12} ohms/square;
 - a non-tape storage medium contained within the housing;
 - circuitry contained within the housing for accessing the non-tape storage medium; and
 - an externally accessible electrical connector supported by the housing and electrically coupled to the circuitry.
2. The data cartridge of claim 1, wherein the housing is adapted to dissipate approximately 5,000 volts DC to approximately 500 volts DC in less than approximately 0.5 seconds.
3. The data cartridge of claim 1, wherein the housing includes a static dissipative polymer.
4. The data cartridge of claim 1, wherein the housing is formed of a material including at least one of polypropylene, polyethylene, polystyrene, nylon, polycarbonate, ABS, and acrylic, and a dissipative polymer.
5. The data cartridge of claim 1, wherein the housing is formed of a material including a carbon-filled resin.
6. The data cartridge of claim 1, wherein the housing conforms to industry standard dimensions for a magnetic tape data cartridge.
7. The data cartridge of claim 1, wherein the non-tape storage medium comprises a disk-shaped storage medium.

8. The data cartridge of claim 1, wherein the non-tape storage medium comprises one of a solid-state storage medium, an optical storage medium, a magneto-optical storage medium, and a holographic storage medium.

9. A data cartridge, comprising:
a housing;
a non-tape storage medium contained within the housing;
means disposed within the housing for accessing the non-tape storage medium;
an externally accessible electrical connector supported by the housing and electrically coupled to the means for accessing the non-tape storage medium; and
means for dissipating a static charge in the data cartridge of approximately 5,000 volts DC to approximately 500 volts DC in less than approximately 0.5 seconds.

10. The data cartridge of claim 9, wherein means for dissipating the static charge includes the housing having a surface resistivity in a range of approximately 10^6 ohms/square to approximately 10^{12} ohms/square.

11. The data cartridge of claim 9, wherein means for dissipating the static charge includes the housing being formed of a static dissipative polymer.

12. The data cartridge of claim 9, wherein dissipating the static charge includes the housing being formed of a material including at least one of polypropylene, polyethylene, polystyrene, nylon, polycarbonate, ABS, and acrylic, and a dissipative polymer.

13. The data cartridge of claim 9, wherein means for dissipating the static charge includes the housing being formed of a material including a carbon-filled resin.

14. The data cartridge of claim 9, wherein the housing conforms to industry standard dimensions for a magnetic tape data cartridge.

15. The data cartridge of claim 9, wherein the non-tape storage medium comprises one of a solid-state storage medium, an optical storage medium, a magneto-optical storage medium, and a holographic storage medium.

16. A data cartridge, comprising:
a housing formed of a material including a static dissipative polymer and having a surface resistivity in a range of approximately 10^6 ohms/square to approximately 10^{12} ohms/square;
a non-tape storage medium contained within the housing;
circuitry for accessing the non-tape storage medium; and
an externally accessible electrical connector electrically coupled to the circuitry.

17. The data cartridge of claim 16, wherein the material of the housing further includes at least one of polypropylene, polyethylene, polystyrene, nylon, polycarbonate, ABS, and acrylic.

18. The data cartridge of claim 16, wherein the housing is adapted to dissipate approximately 5,000 volts DC to approximately 500 volts DC in less than approximately 0.5 seconds.

19. The data cartridge of claim 16, wherein the housing conforms to industry standard dimensions for a magnetic tape data cartridge.

20. The data cartridge of claim 16, wherein the non-tape storage medium comprises one of a solid-state storage medium, an optical storage medium, a magneto-optical storage medium, and a holographic storage medium.